GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3269
ANSWERED ON:14.12.2005
EXPLORATION IN ELEPHANTA A N ISLANDS
Bhakta Shri Manoranjan

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Underwater Archaeology Wing of the Archaeological Survey of India had carried out explorations in the Elephanta Island in the Arabian Sea in 2003-2005;

(b) if so, the details and the outcome thereof;

(c) whether there are any proposals to conduct any such study in and around the Andaman & Nicobar Islands; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

ANSWER MINISTER FOR URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND CULTURE (SHRI S.JAIPAL REDDY)

(a) & (b) Yes, Sir. The Underwater Archaeology Wing of the Archaeological Survey of India has carried out explorations in Elephanta Island in the Arabian Sea in 2003-2005. Pottery found during the explorations include red wares, some black and grey sherds, and amphorae pieces in good quantity. Some of the sherds of amphora can be identified with Late Roman Amphora, suggesting maritime trade contacts from this site.

(c) & (d) There is no such proposal to conduct any such study in and around Andaman & Nicobar Islands, at present.